

Kootenai County
Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Protection District
Policy and Budget Committee

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 11, 2018
4:00 p.m.

Panhandle Health District, 8500 N Atlas Rd, Hayden, ID 83835

Committee Members Present: Leslie Duncan, BiJay Adams, Laurin Scarcello, Mike Galante, Dion Holton, Mary Vehr, Bob Haynes, Jim Hudson, and Kristy Reed Johnson. Necia Maiani and Michelle Johnson were excused.

Also present were Panhandle Health District Administrator Joe Righello, Panhandle Health District Representatives Erik Ketner and Lora Whalen, Department of Environmental Quality Hydrogeologist Alyssa Gersdorf, North Kootenai Water & Sewer District Manager Chris de Groot, Kootenai Environmental Director Sharon Bosley, Area Water Educator Jim Ekins and Marie Schmidt from the University of Idaho, and Recording Secretary Tammie Peacock.

Visitors from are schools were teachers Mike Anderson from Timberlake High School, Jamie Esler from Lake City High School, Cindy Rust from Post Falls High School, and student teacher Max Birdsell, also from Post Falls High School. Student visitors included Kylie Mcmeris, and Logan Jones from Timberlake High School.

At 4:06 p.m., Chair Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance: Leslie dispensed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Jim Hudson made a motion to approve the March 28, 2018 minutes. Kristy Reed Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was taken. The motion carried.

Chairman's Comments and Introductions: Chair Leslie Duncan told the board that some of the guests included teachers and students from the Confluence Project.

Business Items

Kootenai Environmental Alliances FY19 Budget Discussion: Sharon Bosley and Marie Schmidt were back to address some concerns that board had with her FY19 budget request. Sharon said that KEA partners with many different groups and that Alyssa Gersdorf had recently become a partner. She added that the funds will be used strictly for Kootenai County schools. Mike Galante asked if they'd be able give the APD results from the program. Marie showed past survey graphs, but added that it's very hard to gauge the "go on" rate of the students to higher education, due to privacy issues,

changed emails, etc. Mary Vehr asked whether it was up to the teachers to take part in the project and Marie replied “yes.” Mary also asked what changes, if any would be done to gather results? She said that survey questions could be added.

Sharon asked teachers and students in the audience to share their thoughts on the Confluence Project. Teacher Cindy Rust shared that she had developed some cards with Jim Ekins and that the project re-fueled her. She said that she had been questioning remaining a teacher at that point, but the project stirred a passion in her and that gets passed down to the kids.

Student teacher Max Birdsell added that the Confluence Project gave the kids a way to think outside of the box and that it was a super awesome program.

Teacher Jamie Esler revealed that she had been with the program since its inception and was very enthused to partner with the APD. She added that 16, 17, 18 year olds are “open thinkers” and that the program motivates kids.

Teacher Mike Anderson told the board that the project fit in with the next generation Science Standards. He added that there will be an increased level of interest with teachers and that it is a hands on project that gets you out of the classroom and into several hundred acres of learning.

Students Kylie McMeris and Logan Jones took the floor and shared thoughts on the project. Logan said that it sparks interest and that all kids are involved in his class. He said that their teacher gave them the lead. Kylie said that the project being hands on helps and that it was nice to be able to go out on their own and explore and broaden their knowledge.

The students left the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Kootenai Environmental Alliance - \$22,500 - Jim Hudson motioned to approve the budget request. Mike Galante seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Panhandle Health District FY19 Budget Request Presentation: Panhandle Health District Administrator Erik Ketner presented the FY19 budget request of \$362,926.

Salary	\$206,863
Fringe Benefits	\$84,082
Expenses	\$19,000
Well sample labs (current)	\$9,000
Indirect Costs	\$72,981
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$391,926</u>
Fee Revenue	\$29,000
APD Budget Request	\$362,926

During the presentation, he reviewed the critical materials, sewage management, storm water management, water quality sampling, interagency cooperation and administration and community outreach that the budget would cover. He added that there is \$20,000 budgeted for interns, but that it is unlikely that the interns will return this year. A short discussion ensued regarding the inspection of wells and Erik told the board that there are 28 wells that are monitored 3 times per year.

Panhandle Health District - \$362,926 Hearing no other questions or concerns, BiJay Adams made a motion to approve Panhandle Health Districts FY2019 budget. Kristy Reed Johnson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Administrative Supervisor Nancy Jones entered the meeting at 5:01 p.m.

FY19 Budget Update -

a. APD Member Comments / Subcommittee Comments

Kristy Reed Johnson commented that KEA's Confluence Project is "de-politicizing" and that she would like to see it funded for at least 1 year. She said after that time, another look at the project could be taken. Alyssa Gersdorf added that it is a good opportunity to get the information out to the public. Kristy said that the Youth Water Summit is critical to the program. That event takes place at the end of the project at North Idaho College.

Mary Vehr asked that regular status reports come in as well as the results of the field trips. She would like to see a breakdown and how it is tied together with the aquifer. Leslie asked KEA to come back in for the January meeting to update the board.

b. Budget Request Review

BiJay Adams spoke briefly on Agrimet stations and told the group that he is using an one. Jim Hudson thinks that the APD needs to have more data on how much Agrimet is

really used. BiJay replied that Agrimet is widely used and he suggested that Jama calls in to a meeting to explain. Laurin Scarcello said that it should be funded and that he believes it still has merit. Leslie asked BiJay to see if Jama could do a conference call presentation at a May meeting.

Agrimet - \$3,400 - Kristy Reed Johnson made a motion to approve. Laurin Scarcello seconded the motion. A vote was taken, the motion passed.

University of Idaho Extension Outdoor Classroom Initial Construction - \$10,950 – No action taken.

Grower's Meeting - \$1,500 – Mike Galante pointed out that the Grower's Meeting needs to be moved to column "Q" on the budget as that is the working budget column. Leslie asked that this budget request be moved to the next agenda.

BiJay Adams asked if any portion of the fund balance could be used to purchase property. Nancy Jones replied that she would ask Legal if APD funds can be used for procurement of land. She asked if the County would then be looking at an MOU with the Flood Control District. Laurin indicated that he was still on the path with the sump issue.

Aquifer Protection District – Necia Maiani, Leslie Duncan, and Nancy Jones were scheduled to meet on Friday, April 13th to go over and submit the FY19 APD budget.

Chair Leslie Duncan called recess at 5:50 p.m.

Public Hearing:

Chair Leslie Duncan opened the Public Hearing at 6:17 p.m. There were no public comments.

Dion Holton made a motion to adjourn the public hearing at 6:18 p.m. Mary Vehr seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammie R. Peacock
Recording Secretary